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BOOK NOTICES

The Story of the Indian. By George Bird Grinnell. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1895. 12mo, viii, 270 pp. Illustrated.

This is the opening volume of a series intended to tell in concise and popular style the "Story of the West," written by well known authorities in their various departments and edited by Ripley Hitchcock. Of the first of the series, we know in advance that anything written by the author of "Pawnee Hero Stories and Blackfoot Lodge Tales" is at once accurate and interesting. He brings always to the work the fresh enthusiasm of a lover of nature and nature's man, with the minute correctness of detail that comes from long and close association with the wild tribes of the west. As the editor says, "Mr Grinnell might have written a history of the Indian tribes west of the Missouri, which would have been only a valuable repository of facts. But instead of this Mr Grinnell takes us directly to the camp-fire and the council. He shows us the Indian as a man subject to like passions and infirmities with ourselves. He shows us how the Indian wooed and fought, how he hunted and prayed, how he ate and slept—in short, we are admitted to the real life of the red man." The picturesque chapter on the Indian at home could only have been written with twenty years of camp life on the plains behind it.

The work covers the whole range of Indian habit and thought—home life, amusements, arts, marriage, hunting, war, religion, and the changes consequent upon the advent of the white man. Although the statements are intended to be general for the United States territory, the more specific details are drawn chiefly from the tribes with which the author is most familiar—the Blackfeet, Cheyennes, and Pawnees of the buffalo region. There are many things which come as revelations to the lay reader, although sufficiently familiar to the field ethnologist. Among these may be mentioned the great diversity of languages, the high position really held by the women in various tribes, the humor and sociability, and the deep religious sentiment of the Indian. Of special interest are the narratives of the brave Skidi woman and the reckless friend of Left Hand.

The author notes among the wild tribes some curious survivals of the teachings of the early Catholic missionaries. The same influence is distinctly traceable in the systems elaborated by the Kickapoo prophet in the first part of this century and by Smohalla at a later period. The great change wrought in the life of the western tribes by the acquisition of horses and firearms is shown in the chapter on the Coming of the White Man.

The appendix contains a classified synopsis of the more important stocks of the United States and border territories, with tribal etymologies and approximate population, from official sources. The eastern origin of the Siouan or Dakota tribes, now well established, is noted, as also the Shoshonean affinity of the Pimas and Aztecs. The author is inclined to derive the Pawnee tribes from the pueblo region of the extreme southwest. Should this prove true, it will be a most interesting discovery. The southern tribes of this stock, the Caddos and their associates, locate their genesis myth in a very different quarter, viz., the mouth of Red river in Louisiana.

By a strange oversight the author has omitted the rattle from his list of musical instruments. To this must be added the "fiddle" of the Pueblo and Apache tribes, consisting of a notched stick with one end resting upon a gourd and operated by means of another stick drawn up and down along the notches.

In typography and general make up the appearance of the book is neat and attractive.

F. W. HODGE.

Die Maya-Litteratur und der Maya-Apparat zu Dresden. By Dr K. Haebler (*Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, Vol. XII, No. 12, December, 1895).

It is well known to scholars that the most beautiful of the authentic Maya codices is preserved in the Royal Library at Dresden. The librarian has published under the above title a catalogue of works on Mayan antiquities possessed or desired by the library, primarily to better equip it for the study of Mayan manuscripts, and in so doing has made a valuable contribution to an important line of research.

In the last few years the study of Mayan paleography has been industriously pursued in several centers of intellectual activity, and a handy bibliography has become desirable to ac-